

SM-18

MANNING'S HOLD

Ridge vicinity (Wynne)

Private

18th and mid-19th centuries

Wynne Road (MD 252)

The most significant feature of this very altered house is a massive exterior chimney with elongated weatherings built against the brick east end wall. Besides providing two first floor fireplaces for the main house, the chimney also had a fireplace opening at the first floor level on its outside wall for the kitchen wing, now destroyed.

Begun in the 18th century as a one-story structure with one brick end of Flemish bond with clipped gable, this house was raised to two full stories circa 1840-1860. At this time the interior was also completely renovated, obscuring the original floor plan, although original doors exist on the second floor. Reframing of doors and windows on the exterior and rebuilding of the staircase also occurred at this time.

The extent of the mid-19th century alterations to this house make it difficult to date the earlier portion. Dr. Sydney Evans owned the property from 1845 until 1876, and it is likely that the changes were made during this period. (This property has sometimes been referred to as the Smith Creek house.)

Capsule Summary
SM-18
Smith Creek House and Farm
Wynne
Private

late 1940s

After Charles Davis purchased the 81 acre parcel "Part of Manning's Hold" in 1944 he and his family went about improving the farm's outbuildings by building a series of new barns, cribs, garages and other storage buildings. All of these buildings surrounded a central courtyard that was symbolically anchored on the east by a large livestock and hay barn with a gambrel roof and on the west by the eighteenth century Smith Creek House. The north and south sides of the yard were lined by ancillary structures such as a drive through corn crib, two metal cribs, a shed garage, and a storage building. The presence of the livestock barn and cribs reveals that much of the farm was cultivated in corn and grain for much of the mid-nineteenth century and that cattle and other domestic animals were raised as well. Overall, this complex of agricultural buildings reveals how mid-twentieth century farmers in the southern end of the county had made the complete shift away from tobacco towards grain and how they garnered a more orderly view of their farmyards. Today, the farm buildings are not used but they remain under the Davis family ownership.

SM-18, Smith Creek House and Farm
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period:

Rural Agrarian Intensification, 1680-1815
Modern Period, 1930-present

Historic Period Theme:

Architecture
Agriculture

Resource Type

Category:

Building

Historic Environment:

Rural

Historic Function and Use:

Residence
Agriculture

Known Design Source:

None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Manning's Hold

and/or common Smith Creek House & Farm (pref.)

2. Location

off of Wynne Road just before end of Wynne Road, approx. 0.1 mile down dirt road—S of Wynne Road
street & number not for publication

city, town Wynne ☒ vicinity of congressional district 1

state Maryland county St. Mary's TM-70, B-16, P-21

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Luella I. Davis

street & number telephone no.: 301-872-5459

city, town Ridge state and zip code Maryland 20680

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber 124

street & number folio 121

city, town Leonardtown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. SM-18

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 8

The Smith Creek House and Farm is located near the end of Wynne Road in Wynne, Maryland. The eighteenth century dwelling located on the farm has already been documented in a previous survey, the mid-twentieth century outbuildings to the east of the house have not been recorded so this description will cover only those outbuildings. Situated on "Tick Neck," the farm is approached via a dirt road that extends southward from Wynne Road. The main house overlooks the confluence of the Potomac River and Smith Creek and is roughly oriented on an east/west axis. A courtyard of agricultural outbuildings lies southeast of the main house and represents the focus of this description. These outbuildings consist of a large livestock barn, a drive through corn crib, a metal crib, an equipment shed, a granary, a wood crib, and two storage sheds. All of these buildings are surrounded by an extensive cultivated tract.

The visual anchor of the assemblage is the livestock barn. This late-1940s, two story, axial plan, frame building was constructed on a poured concrete foundation. The exterior was sheathed with clapboard fastened to the circular sawn frame with wire nails. A pronounced enclosed cornice is below a very flat, kicked eave, a mechanism that slows rainwater falling off of the raised-seam metal covered gambrel roof. The roof is pierced by louvered cupolas for ventilation. The primary or west elevation is pierced by a large tractorway that is flanked on either side by six-pane fixed sash (all windows feature similar sash unless otherwise noted). The hay loft above is also pierced by a pair of windows as well as a hinged door. Just above this door is a set of roll-away doors with a V-shaped crown. When opened these doors allow hay to be hoisted up and stacked in the loft. Two windows flank these doors. Near the peak of the roof is a bale hoist that is covered by an extension of the roof. The north elevation's fenestration consists of seven symmetrically placed windows. The east elevation, like the west, features a central tractorway flanked by a windows. While the second floor is pierced by two windows, it does not feature loft doors. A small window is located near the roof peak. The south elevation exhibits a centrally located set of swinging doors flanked on either side by three windows.

The interior of the barn is composed of a central tractorway flanked to the north by a series of stables or pens and to the south by feeding troughs and pens as well. A vertical ladder, located near the west tractorway leads to the hay loft. As a large unpartitioned space, the loft allows for the efficient storage of hay by utilizing a hay track that ran along the ridge of the roof. The structure of the barn's immense gambrel roof is also exposed here. Interestingly, the common rafter roof does not feature a kerb plate where the roof changes pitch. Instead, at the change in pitch the upper and lower rafters are joined by a third framing member that is merely face nailed to the side of each rafter pair.

The drive through, axial plan corn crib is situated just west of the livestock barn. Oriented on an east/west axis, the building is raised on concrete piers and features a central tractorway that extends through the entire building. This tractorway is flanked on either side by cribs that are enclosed by vertical wood slats attached to the circular sawn frame with wire nails. The roof is covered with raised seam metal and is pierced by a skylight.

East of the drive through corn crib is a cylinder-shaped grain elevator. The building stands on a concrete foundation and is entirely sheathed with corrugated metal. A conical roof covered with corrugated metal tops the elevator.

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-18

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☒ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

After Charles Davis purchased the 81 acre parcel "Part of Manning's Hold" in 1944 he and his family went about improving the farm's outbuildings by building a series of new barns, cribs, garages and other storage buildings. All of these buildings surrounded a central courtyard that was symbolically anchored on the east by a large livestock and hay barn with a gambrel roof and on the west by the eighteenth century Smith Creek House. The north and south sides of the yard were lined by ancillary structures such as a drive through corn crib, two metal cribs, a shed garage, and a storage building. The presence of the livestock barn and cribs reveals that much of the farm was cultivated in corn and grain for much of the mid-nineteenth century and that cattle and other domestic animals were raised as well. Overall, this complex of agricultural buildings reveals how mid-twentieth century farmers in the southern end of the county had made the complete shift away from tobacco towards grain and how they garnered a more orderly view of their farmyards. Today, the farm buildings are not used but they remain under the Davis family ownership.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-18

Jack Bowes, conversation and interview, July 1997

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 81 acresQuadrangle name St. George's Island, MdQuadrangle scale 1: 24 000UTM References do NOT complete UTM referencesA

Zone	Easting							Northing	

B

Zone	Easting							Northing	

C

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D

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyororganization Dept. of Planning & Zoningdate November, 1997street & number 22740 Washington Streettelephone 301-475-4662city or town Leonardtownstate Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

SM-18, Smith Creek House and Farm
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

A long one story, frame equipment shed lies to the east of the grain elevator. This building is rimmed by a poured concrete foundation and sheathed with horizontal clapboard attached to the circular sawn frame with wire nails. The cornice is left exposed and the roof is still covered with cedar shingles. The south elevation is pierced by five sets of paired garage doors.

Between the equipment shed and main house is a small vertical board sheathed garage/storage shed. Erected on a concrete foundation the building is equipped with a cedar shingle roof.

On the other side from the aforementioned row of buildings is another row of three smaller structures a possible granary, corncrib, and shed. All three buildings are raised on concrete piers. The granary is sheathed with clapboard, the shed with vertical boards and the crib with vertical wood slats that are interspersed with wire mesh to hold in the corn ears. The granary's roof consists of raised seam metal, the crib's roof has corrugated metal, and the shed's exhibits cedar shingles. All three of these buildings are pierced on the north sides by a single hinged door.

— SM-18, Smith Creek House and Farm
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber CBG 124, Folio 121
Grantee: Charles E. and Luella I. Davis
Grantor: Lawyers Title Company of Saint Mary's County, Inc.
Date: December 21, 1965

Reference: Liber CBG 124, Folio 119
Grantee: Lawyers Title Company of St. Mary's County, Inc.
Grantor: Charles E. and Luella I. Davis
Date: December 21, 1965

Reference: Liber CBG 16, Folio 175
Grantee: Charles E. Davis
Grantor: Charles R. and Mary E. Lewis, Jr.
Date: April 15, 1944
Notes: The property is called "Part of Manning's Hold" and contains 81 acres.

— Reference: Liber EBA 19, Folio 440
Grantee: Charles Neubert
Grantor: Alfred I. and Dorsey A. Sanner and Alfred G. and M. Alice Sanner
Date: February 23, 1921
Notes: Here the Sanners sell the property called Mannings Hold's to Neubert for \$ 8,000. A map of the property by Charles A. Heard reveals how the property was divided.

Reference: Liber EBA 12, Folio 440
Grantee: Alfred G. Sanner
Grantor: Joseph and Grace Olivich
Date: July 11, 1914
Notes: Here the property is noted as containing 115 acres.

Reference: Liber EBA 6, Folio 121
Grantee: Joseph Olovich
Grantor: Susanna R.W. West
Date: October 26, 1906
Notes: Here the property is listed as containing 118 acres.

Reference: Liber EBA 3, Folio 335
Grantee: Susanna R. W. West
Grantor: Potomac Beach Hotel and Improvement Company
Date: October 13, 1903

— Reference: Liber EBA 3, Folio 14
Grantee: Potomac Beach Hotel and Improvement Company
Grantor: Susannah West
Date: October 27, 1902

SM-18, Smith Creek House and Farm
St. Mary's County
8.2 Significance

(cont.)

Reference: Liber EBA 2, Folio 173

Grantee: Susanna R.W. West

Grantor: Ann M. Abell

Date: August 3, 1901

Notes: West purchases the now 120 acre property for \$ 2,000.

Reference: Liber JFF 6, Folio 62

Grantee: Ann M. Abell, wife of J. Leo Abell

Grantor: Allen C. Tyler, trustee

Date: August 1, 1882

Notes: Here the deed notes that Allen C. Tyler was appointed trustee for the property by the Circuit Court. In a case between Allen C. Tyler, William Burch, Joseph H. Key (extrs. for the estate of David W. Tyler) vs Oliver N. Evans, Charles S. Evans, and James D. Evans, the circuit court determines that the Evans' had not satisfactorily paid a mortgage on the property called "Manning's Hold" of \$1,189 to the estate of David W. Tyler. They therefore ordered the sale of the property that is described as the home of Dr. Sydney Evans. See Decree Record Liber JFF 4, Folio 143.

Reference: (Mortgage) Liber JAC 4, Folio 32

Grantee: David W. Tyler

Grantor: Oliver N., Charles S., and James D. Evans

Date: July 29, 1869

Notes: The mortgage dictates that \$1189 be paid by July 1, 1872 or the Evans forfeit their rights to the property.

Reference: Liber JH 13, Folio 538

Grantee: Dr. Sydney Evans

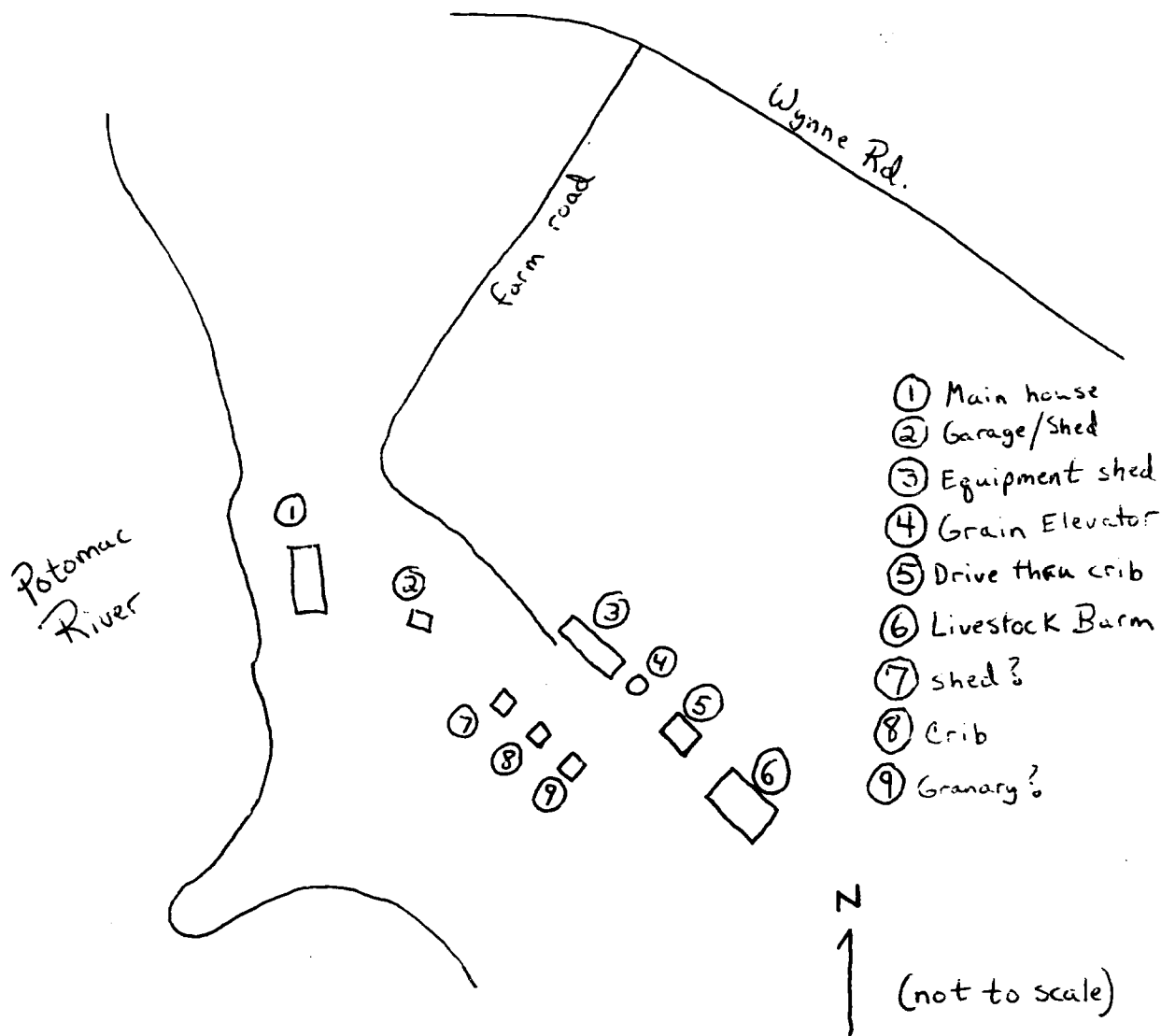
Grantor: Sarah C. White, Henry N. and Charlotte Kirk, James B. and Emily Kirk, Ann A. Maddox, Margaret V. Kirk, William A. Kirk, James and Jane C. Nelson (heirs of James Kirk)

Date: May 13, 1845

Notes: This deed confirms the previously unrecorded sale of the property, called Manning's Hold containing 120 acres, from James Kirk to Dr. Sydney Evans originally agreed upon in a bond of conveyance dated May 3, 1834. The deed also notes that Kirk had purchased the property from a George Loker. A search in the grantee/grantor index for the transaction did not turn up any further deeds for the property.

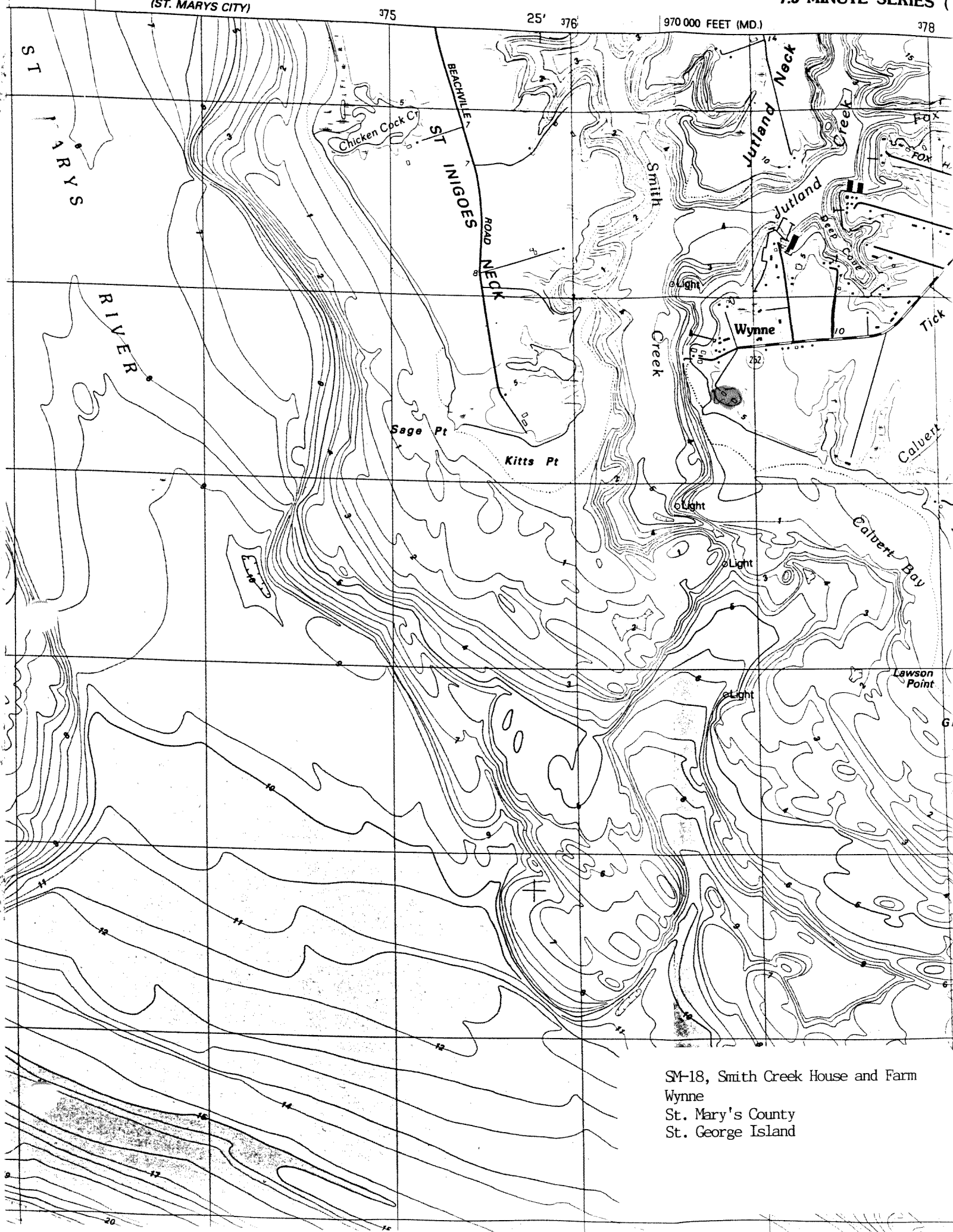
SM-18, Smith Creek House and Farm
St. Mary's County
8.3 Significance

SM-18, Smith Creek House & Farm
Wynne, Maryland
Site Plan



1900185204





SM-18, Smith Creek House and Farm
Wynne
St. Mary's County
St. George Island



SM-18

Manning's Hold

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Md SHPO

Nov/1999

F + S elevations

1 of 2



CM-18

Manning's Island

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Panzetta

Md SHPO

Nov/99

W + N elevations

2 of 3



SM-18

Manning's Hold

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzezza

Md SHPO

Nov/99

W & N elevations

2 of 2



SM-18

Mannings Hold (Smith Creek House)

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Nov 1999

Chd SHPO

W + S elevations of cow barn



SM-18

Smith Live & House & Farm

- i. Malaga County

Kirk Ranzetta

Aug/98

42 SHPO

• Environmental View - looking S

1 of 4



SM-18

Smith Creek House & Farm

St. Mary's County

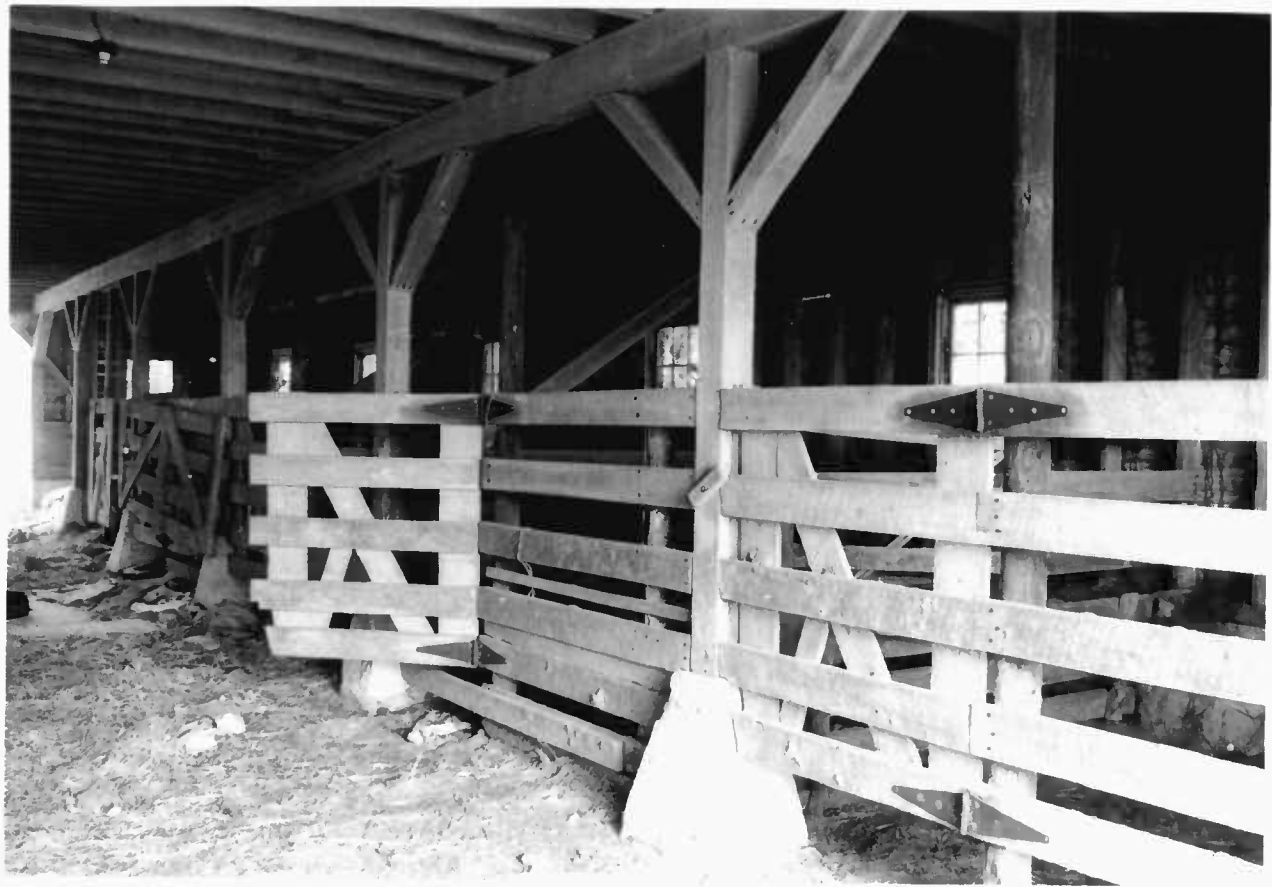
Kirk Pomeroy

Aug/97

MD SNA

Livestock Barn & Elevation

2 of 4



SM-18

Smith Creek House & Farm

St Mary's County

Kirk Ranzeita

Aug/97

4d S&PO

Livestock Farm - looking W

2 of 4



CM-18

Smith Creek House & Barn

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranetta

Aug/97

41 SHPS

Livestock Tag - Linking E

4 of 4